ORIGINAL STORY: Fummy
ART: Yuna Kagesaki

CHAPTER 6

The Witch's House

The Diary of Ellen

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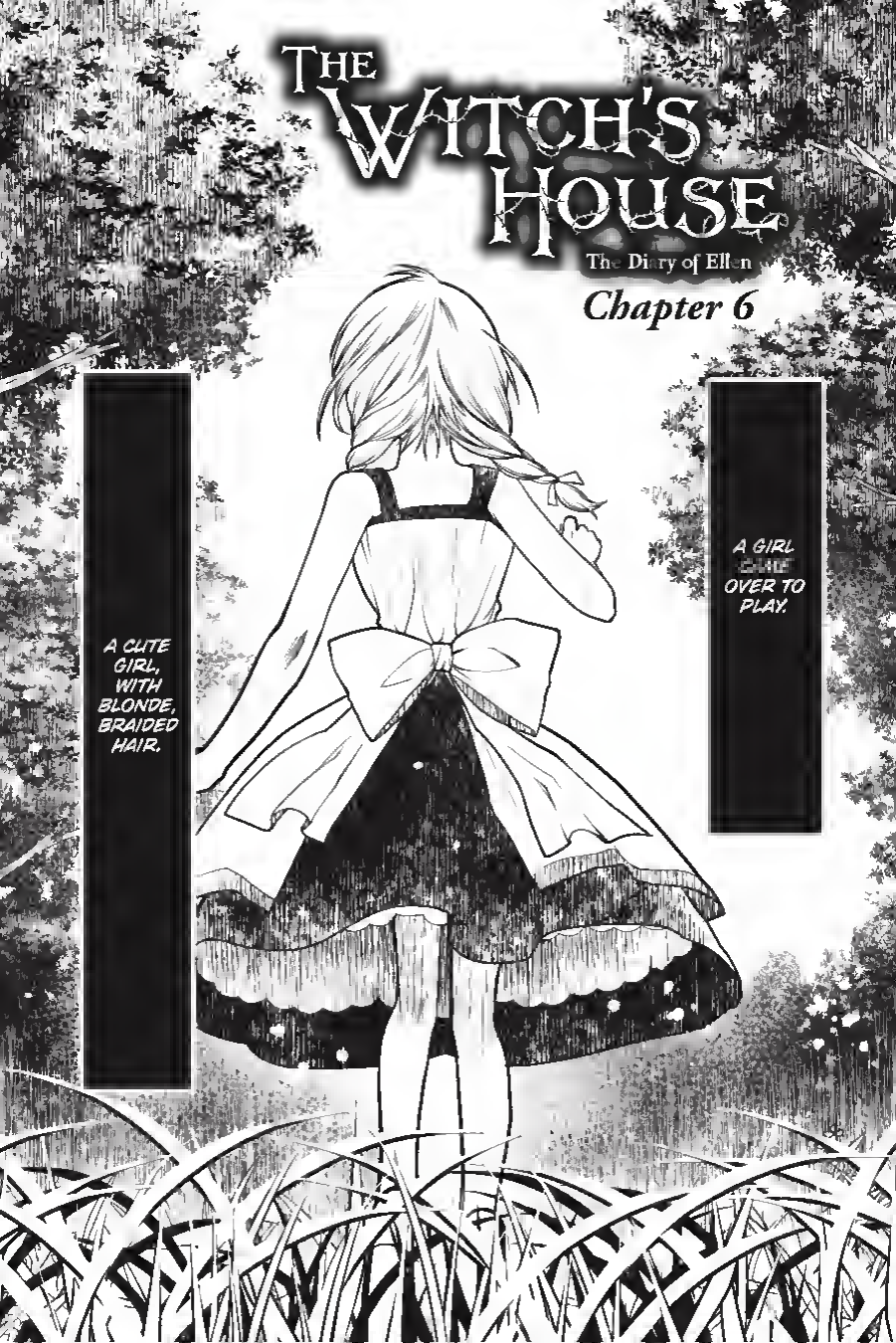
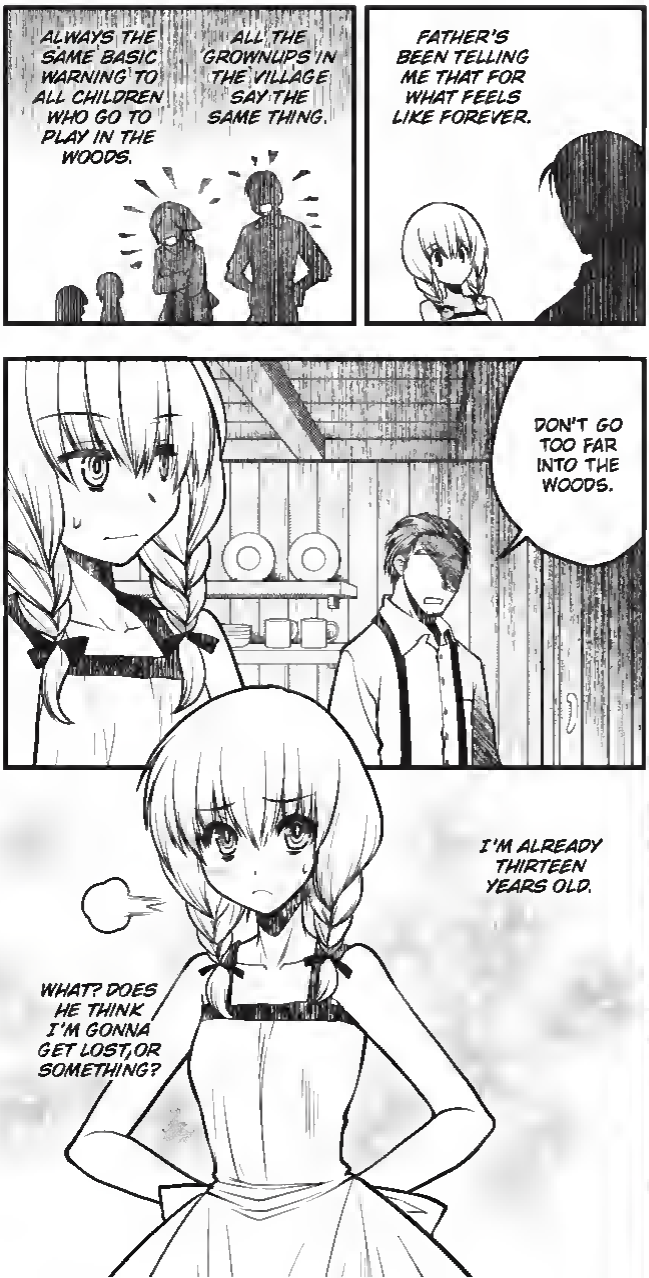
Chapter 6



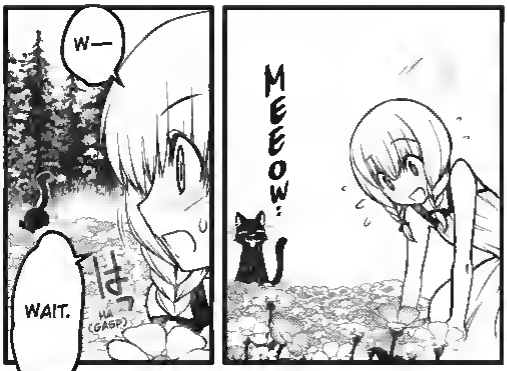

ALWAYS THE SAME BASIC WARNING TO ALL CHILDREN WHO GO TO PLAY IN THE WOODS.
ALL THE GROWNUPS IN THE VILLAGE SAY THE SAME THING.
FATHER'S BEEN TELLING ME THAT FOR WHAT FEELS LIKE FOREVER.
ONE MUSTN'T STRAY DEEP INTO THE WOODS.
DON'T GO TOO FAR INTO THE WOODS.
I'M ALREADY THIRTEEN YEARS OLD.
WHAT? DOES HE THINK I'M GONNA GET LOST, OR SOMETHING?

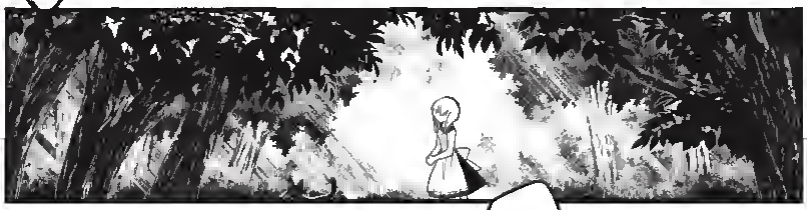
I DON'T FEEL FREE AT ALL.
THERE'S NO WAY THEY'VE NEVER GONE FAR INTO THE WOODS, SO WHY CAN'T I?
AND PLENTY OF OTHER GROWNUPS GO THERE TO GATHER HERBS.
FATHER'S A HUNTER, SO HE'S NO STRANGER TO THE WOODS.

GASA (RUSTLE)
カサッ
ONE MUSTN'T STRAY DEEP INTO THE WOODS.
DOKUN (BADUMP)
ドクン

OH.....
MEWOW...

KURU (PWIP)
COME CLOSER.
HO (PWEW)
LOOK AT YOU...
MEEOW...
GASA (RUSTLE)
GASA
GASA
W—
OKAY.
WAIT UP.
HE WANTS ME TO FOLLOW!..?

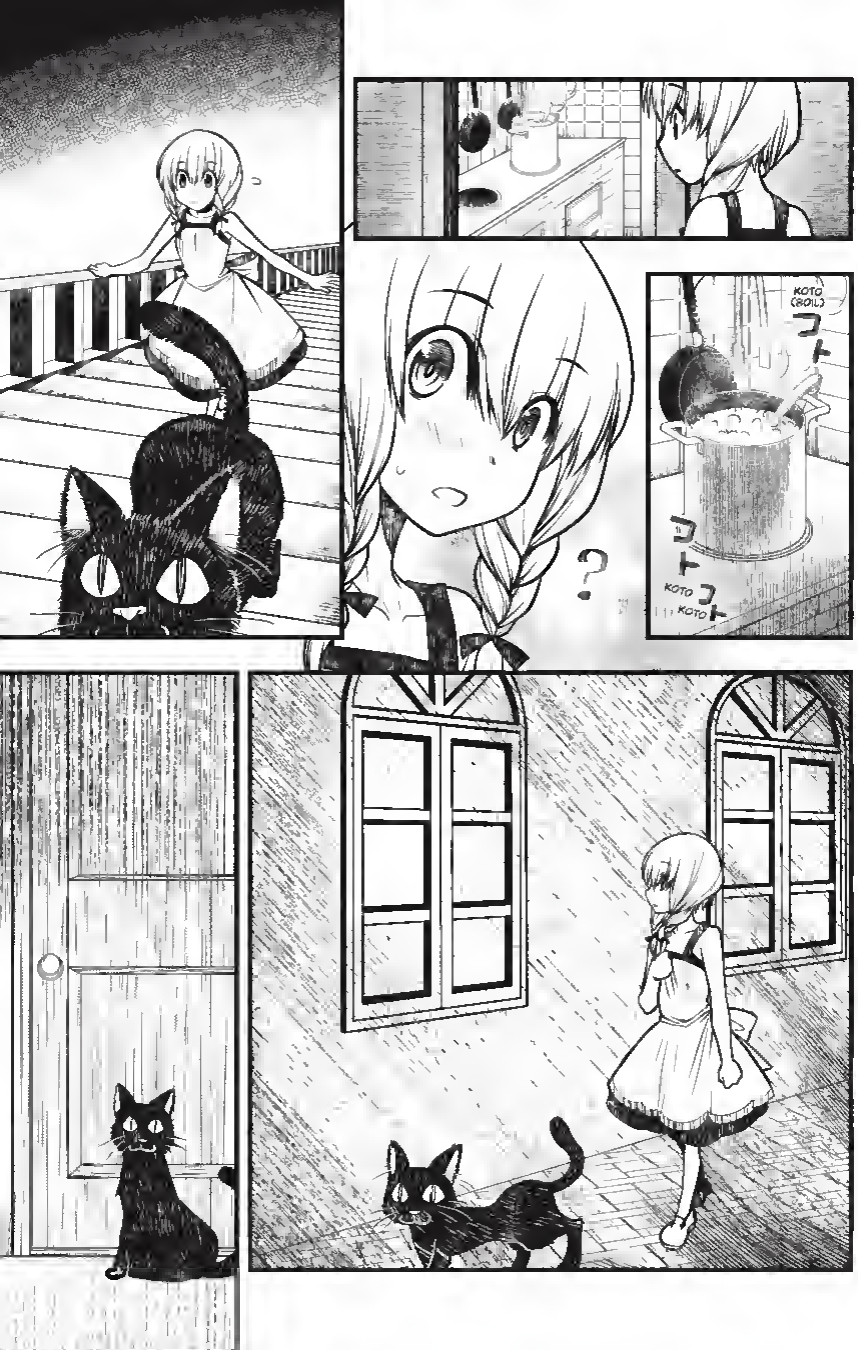

W—
WAIT.
HA (GASP)
MEEOW!

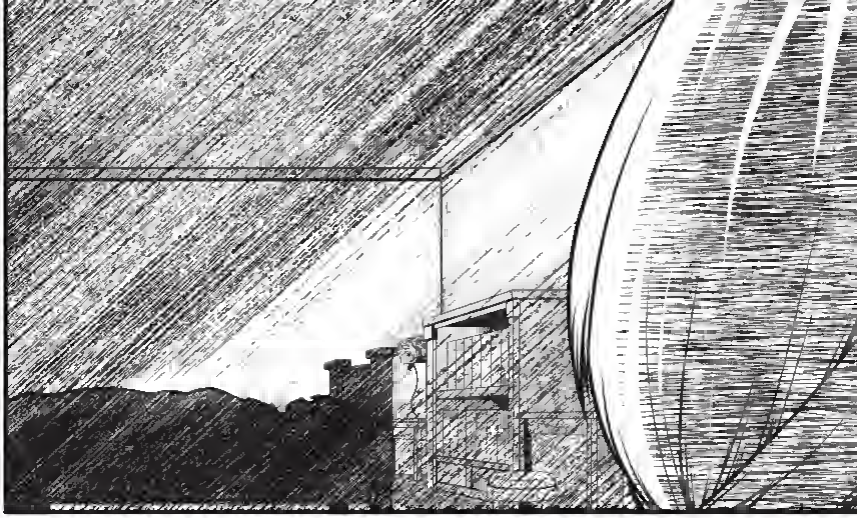


WOW.....

IT FEELS AS THOUGH I'VE GOTTEN LOST IN A DREAM.
A GIANT HOUSE, THIS DEEP IN THE WOODS...?
OH...

HELLO...?
GOOD-NESS.
DON'T SUR-PRISE ME LIKE THAT.
TE (TAP)
TE
TE
BIKU (JOLT)
SA (SSK)


KOTO (BOIL)
コト
コト
KOTO
コト
KOTO
?



BATAN CELANA
!!
CREAK
AH!

HELLO THERE...
...WHO ARE YOU?
I'M...
I'M VIOLA.
...SCARED OF ME?
AREN'T YOU...
....
VIOLA-CHAN...

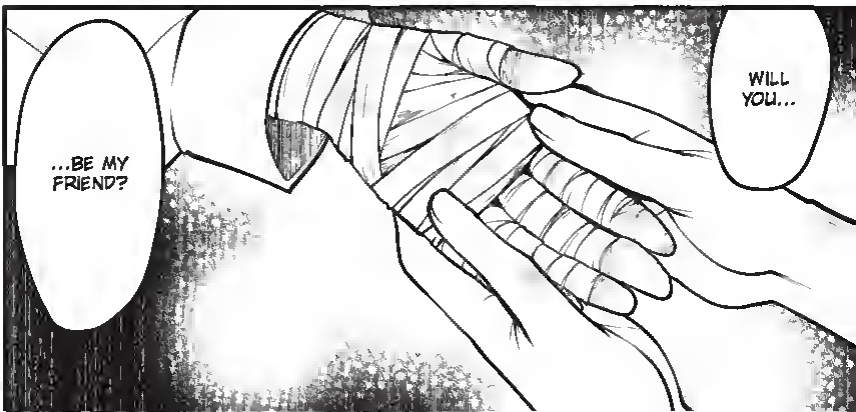
I'M NOT SCARED.
YOU SEE...
...I'M SICK.

THE FIRST PERSON TO COME SEE ME BESIDES THE DOCTOR.
YOU'RE THE FIRST ...

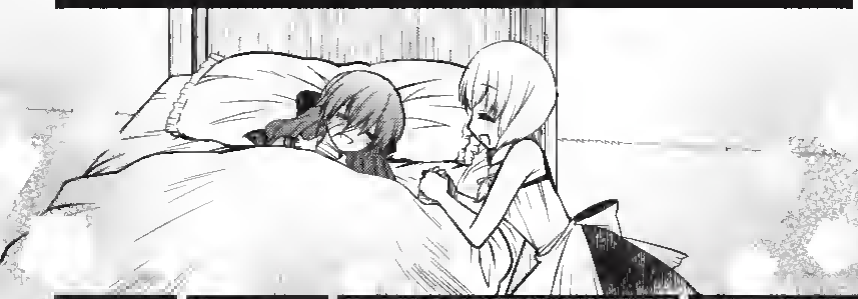
MY DISEASE KEEPS ME IN THIS BED.
I STAY HERE ALL DAY, SLEEPING.

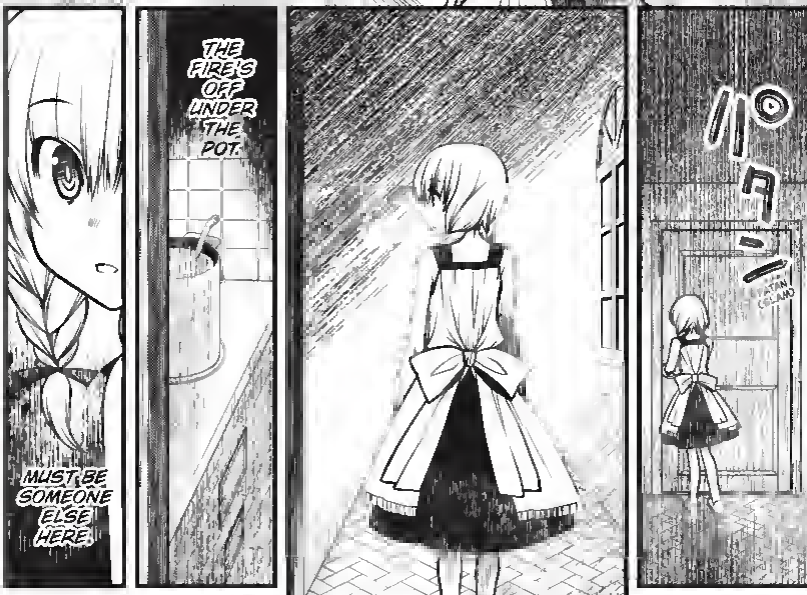
THAT'S WHY...
...I WAS SO SURPRISED TO SEE YOU.

I'M...
...ELLEN.


WILL YOU...
...BE MY FRIEND?

HOW COULD I NOT AGREE TO THAT?

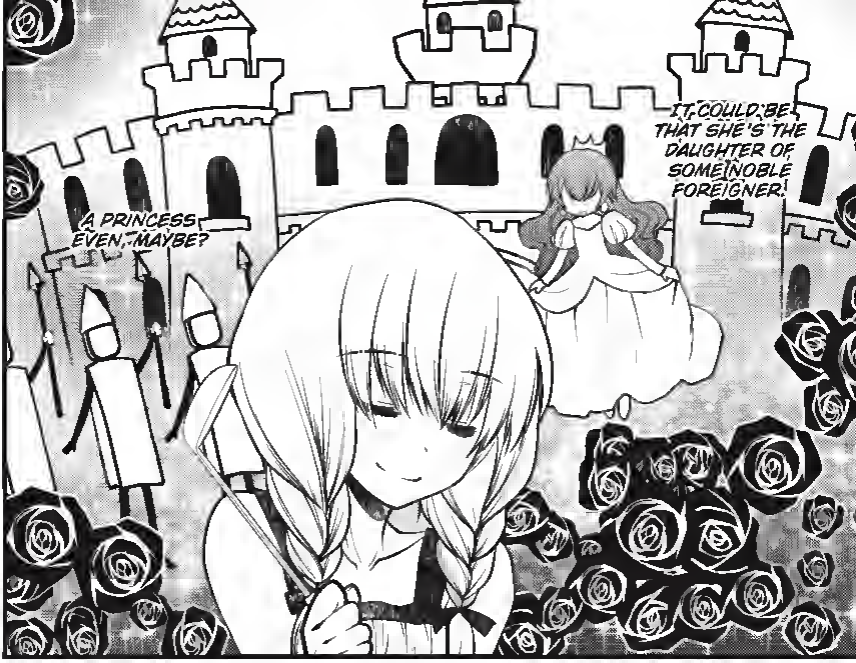


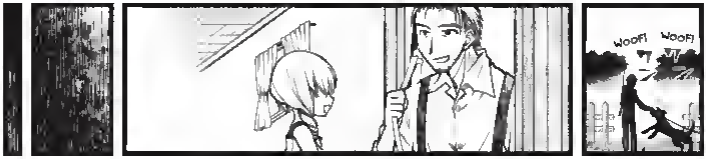


THANKS FOR HAVING ME.
PATAN SLAM
.....

I'D HEARD ABOUT ELLEN. THE GIRL WHO LIVES IN A HOUSE IN THE WOODS, GETTING TREATED FOR HER ILLNESS.
THEY SAY THE PEOPLE WHO CARE FOR HER LIVE THERE TOO.
FROM HOW SHE TALKED ABOUT THEM, I GOT THE FEELING SHE DOESN'T LIKE THOSE OTHERS VERY MUCH.
DID THAT HOUSE REALLY EXIST?
WAS THE GIRL REALLY EVEN THERE?
I CAN'T HELP BUT WONDER.

FATHER WILL BE HOME FROM WORK SOON.
OH DEAR.
SHE'S DEFINITELY NOT FROM AROUND HERE.
AFTER ALL, I'VE NEVER MET ANYONE ELSE WITH GOLDEN EYES LIKE HERS.
AND THAT LAVENDER COLORED HAIR IS CERTAINLY UNCOMMON.
PERHAPS SHE MOVED HERE FROM SOME DISTANT LAND?
BUT TO BUILD SUCH A MASSIVE MANSION FOR ONE LITTLE GIRL TO LIVE IN?
MAYBE THEY THOUGHT THE FRESH, CLEAN AIR IN THE WOODS WOULD DO HER GOOD.
AMAZING.


A PRINCESS EVEN, MAYBE?
IT COULD BE THAT SHE'S THE DAUGHTER OF SOME NOBLE FOREIGNER.


WOOF! WOOF!

VIOLA-CHAN!
IT WASN'T A DREAM AFTER ALL.
NOPE.

I'M SO VERY GLAD YOU'VE COME BACK TO SEE ME.
PLEASE, HAVE SOME, VIOLA-CHAN.
FOR ME?
THANK YOU.
IS THAT YOUR PET CAT?
YES. WELL, NOT EXACT-LY MY PET. HE JUST DECIDED TO LIVE HERE.
REAL-LY?
"THAT IS NOT TRUE AT ALL." HE SAYS.
FU-FU.
MR.OW.

...NO.
I CAME HERE A LONG TIME AGO.
.....HOW DID YOU KNOW, THOUGH?
UM, YOU'RE NOT FROM THIS AREA ORIGINALLY, ARE YOU ELLEN?
I READ THAT IN A BOOK ONCE, ACTUALLY.
HOW PEOPLE AROUND HERE DON'T HAVE GOLDEN EYES.
GOSO GOSO GSARGHO
OH, I SEE.
QUITE UNUSUAL.
IT'S THE COLOR OF YOUR EYES.
CAN YOU REALLY READ THIS, ELLEN-CHAN?
BUT A GIRL EVEN YOUNGER THAN ME IS READING IT WITH NO TROUBLE?
JUST TRYING TO READ THIS MAKES MY HEAD SPIN.
...!
THERE IT IS.
LET ME SEE... AH.

YES.
I CAN'T GO OUTSIDE, YOU SEE.
NO.
YOU CAN'T GO OUTSIDE?
IT'S NOT THAT MY DISEASE IS CONTAGIOUS OR ANYTHING.
MY LEGS, THOUGH ...
SO READING BOOKS IS JUST ABOUT ALL I CAN DO.
I UNDERSTAND ...
...THEY HURT WHEN I MOVE.
WE USED TO LIVE TOGETHER.
BUT .....
...
WHAT ABOUT YOUR PARENTS?
HARD TO SAY. AS LONG AS I CAN RECALL.
EXACTLY HOW LONG HAVE YOU BEEN HERE, ELLEN-CHAN?
IT'S HARD TO REMEMBER
I USED TO LIVE SOMEWHERE ELSE, BUT.....
THEY SET UP SUCH A LOVELY ROOM FOR HER, BUT HAVEN'T COME HERE SINCE?
THEY HAVEN'T BEEN TO SEE ME SINCE I CAME HERE.
.....!?

THEY...
...MUST BE BUSY WITH THEIR JOBS.
JOBS?
YES.
I MEAN, HAVING THIS BIG OLD HOUSE FOR YOU TO LIVE IN...
IT MUST TAKE A LOT OF MONEY.
THEN THERE ARE THE DOC-TOR'S FEES.
AND MONEY FOR MEDICINE.
THEY'RE HARD AT WORK FOR YOUR SAKE, ELLEN-CHAN, SO THEY DON'T HAVE TIME TO SEE YOU.
HMM .....
.....SO THEY'RE WORKING FOR MY SAKE, ARE THEY?
MY OWN FATHER IS OFTEN OUT LATE ON THE JOB.
YES, OF COURSE ...
YES.
I'M SURE OF IT.
HEY.
YOUR EYES ARE GREEN, AREN'T THEY VIOLA-CHAN?
?
YES.

YOUR HAIR SPARKLES BRIGHTLY AS THE SUN.
AND YOUR EYES SHINE LIKE LEAVES.
SO PRETTY.
COME.
LET ME SEE.
MY EYES AREN'T ALL THAT SPECIAL.
NO, THEY'RE QUITE PRETTY.

TO BE CONTINUED IN *THE WITCH'S HOUSE* CHAPTER 7

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The Diary of Ellen

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TRANSLATION: CALEB COOK
LETTERING: ROCHELLE GANCIO

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